



Beckley Furnace State Park, North Canaan, CT

In 1731, iron ore was discovered in Salisbury, CT. Mines and forges soon covered the area of northwestern CT. In 1847, Beckley Furnace was built to accommodate the spike in iron production. During the Civil War, Beckley Furnace was most likely a stop along the Underground Railroad, but since historical records are spotty, no concrete facts about it are known. Today, you can see the ruins of the forge, or go fishing in the nearby Blackberry River. This picture dates from the dedication of the Furnace as a State Monument on June 8, 1946.